

SVU/R/O/2025-26/218

May 29, 2026

OFFICE ORDER**Sub: Re-constitution of University Women Development Cell (UWDC)****Ref: Office Order No. SVU/R/O/2022-23/34 dated August 22, 2022**

The Women Development Cell is established in Somaiya Vidyavihar University (SVU) on 12-08-2022 by the Hon. Vice Chancellor of the University. The establishment of the WDC is indeed a great milestone to pursue policies for women empowerment within the campus. The University has set up the UWDC to address concerns of women specifically related to gender discrimination and recommend measures and policies for gender parity. The cell constitutes of members from various constituent colleges comprising of both the teaching and non-teaching women staff. After the Sexual Harassment Act of 2013 and the UGC Guidelines of 2015, the University has set up the Campus Internal Complaints Committee to address complaints of Sexual Harassment of women at workplace.

The main role of the University Women Development Cell (UWDC) is to create a gender sensitized community within the campus, prevent sexual harassment at workplace (colleges and university campuses) and to promote general wellbeing of female students, teaching and non-teaching staff. The cell is also responsible to conduct activities to create awareness programmes on gender sensitization, women rights and women empowerment in the colleges as well as University.

Objectives of UWDC

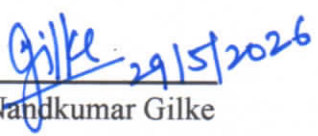
- To create and develop a pleasant environment for women employees (including all teaching, support staff) and students allowing them to reach their full potential.
- To undertake workshops, seminars, training programs to create awareness on gender sensitization, women's rights and women empowerment in constituent colleges and university
- To sensitize the students towards the special needs of all genders.
- To develop skills among the students for equitable opportunities for the educational avenues and overall personality development.
- To prevent sexual harassment at workplace (colleges and university campuses).
- To conduct workshops, seminars for awareness of Women welfare laws.
- To undertake workshops, surveys or action research projects, if necessary, pertaining to women in the society with the help of NGOs.
- To collaborate with external organisations, industries and NGOs to enhance initiatives related to gender equity, safety and empowerment.

Composition of University Women Development Cell (UWDC)

Sr. No	Name of the Person	Designation
1.	Dr. Aparna Jain, Director, Dr. Shantilal K Somaiya School of Commerce & Business Studies	Ex-Officio President
2.	Dr. Bharati Makhijani Dr. Shantilal K Somaiya School of Commerce and Business Studies	Chairperson
3.	Dr. Shruti Chavarkar Assistant Registrar, Somaiya Vidyavihar University	Secretary
4.	Dr. Nilesh Wagh, Associate Professor Somaiya School of Basic and Applied Sciences	Member
5.	Dr. V.S. Narwane, Associate Professor, K J Somaiya School of Engineering	Member
6.	Dr Monalisa Behera, Assistant Professor, Somaiya School of Civilization Studies	Member
7.	Prof. Reena Mehta, Professor K J Somaiya Institute of Management	Member
8.	Dr Shonan Padte, Assistant Professor Somaiya Sports Academy	Member
9.	Dr. Rupali Patil, Associate Professor K J Somaiya School of Engineering	Member
10.	Dr. Vandana Satam, Associate Professor K J Somaiya School of Engineering	Member
11.	Ms. Prachi Pathak, Assistant Professor K J Somaiya Institute of Dharma Studies	Member
12.	Ms. Kruttika Bhosle, Assistant Professor K J Somaiya School of Languages and Literature	Member
13.	Mrs. Sunita Gangrade, Assistant Professor Maya Somaiya School of Music and Performing Arts	Member
14.	Dr Usha Sharma, Assistant Professor K J Somaiya School of Education	Member
15.	Mrs. Pradnya Chavan Legal Advisor	Ex-officio Member

- The term of the Office of the cell shall be for three years.
- The cell shall meet at least twice every academic year.
- The Chairperson of the cell can call a Special meeting at any time.
- The quorum of any meeting of the cell shall be one third of its members.

Issued, as approved by the Vice Chancellor


Prof. Nandkumar Gilke
Registrar



copies to: All Members, VCO, Deans & HoIs & Office File